

# Estimating the Economic Impact of Secondhand Smoke on Indiana in 2007

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Secondhand smoke costs Indiana \$390.3 million dollars<sup>1</sup> in excess medical expenses, or about \$62 dollars per person each year. The burden of these expenses is assumed by businesses, government, and individual citizens. As daunting as the amount appears, it does not include costs of health care and loss of life of Indiana residents that smoke, which alone is estimated to be over \$2 billion dollars.

Total health care costs attributable to secondhand smoke = 282.5 million dollars
Total loss of life costs attributable to secondhand smoke = 107.8 million dollars
<b>Overall cost of health care and premature loss of life attributed to secondhand smoke for Indiana residents in 2007 = \$390.3 million dollars</b>

Exposure to secondhand smoke causes many medical conditions in adults, including lung cancer, nasal sinus cancer, breast cancer, cervical cancer, ischemic heart disease, stroke, eye and nasal irritation, spontaneous abortions and asthma. In addition, other studies have suggested that exposure to secondhand smoke may be causally associated with adult leukemia, angina pectoris (severe chest pain), hearing loss, allergies, periodontal disease, dysmenorrhea (severe pelvic pain during menstruation), colds, pneumonia, meningitis, macular degeneration, congestive heart failure and cardiac arrhythmia.

Scientific evidence confirms that there is no safe, risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke.

Exposure of children to secondhand smoke has been linked to low birth weight, sudden infant death syndrome, respiratory syncytial virus bronchiolitis (RSV), asthma exacerbations, otitis media (middle ear infections), chronic respiratory symptoms, cystic fibrosis exacerbation, allergies, meningitis, loss of hearing and cognitive behavioral impairment. In addition, many adults and children are injured in fires started by smoking.

At least 1,194 adults, children and infants in Indiana died in 2007 from diseases definitively tied to secondhand smoke by the US Surgeon General (not including approximately 49 spontaneous abortions). These lives lost are entirely preventable.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on data from 2006, reported in 2007 dollars.

**Adults: Number of Deaths and Medical Costs  
for Selected Secondhand Smoke Related Conditions  
State of Indiana, 2007**

Disease	# Deaths and # Hospitalizations due to secondhand smoke exposure	Costs per Hospitalization (Adjusted to 2007 Dollars)	Total Cost (Adjusted to 2007 Dollars)
Lung Cancer	176 hospitalizations 88 deaths	\$27,526	\$4,844,648 hospitalization \$30,298,589 loss of life
Nasal Sinus Cancer	8 hospitalizations 1 death	\$27,855	\$222,842 hospitalization \$261,729 loss of life
Heart Disease (CHD)	4,861 hospitalizations 824 deaths	\$32,109	\$156,083,956 hospitalization \$0 loss of life
Breast Cancer	40 hospitalizations 11 deaths	\$18,123	\$724,908 hospitalization \$19,071,197
Stroke	10 hospitalizations 241 deaths	\$17,383	\$173,828 hospitalization \$0 loss of life
Cervical Cancer	37 hospitalizations 8 deaths	\$20,311	\$751,519 hospitalization \$8,785,190 loss of life
Asthma	2,821 hospitalizations 10 deaths	\$18,229	\$51,425,285 hospitalization \$7,852,609 loss of life
		Total Hospitalization Costs =	\$214,226,986
		Total Loss of Life Costs =	\$66,269,313
		<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$280,496,299</b>

**Children: Number of Deaths and Medical Costs  
for Selected Secondhand Smoke Related Conditions  
State of Indiana, 2007**

Disease	# Deaths & Health Care Utilization Due to secondhand smoke exposure	Costs per Case (Adjusted to 2007 Dollars)	Total Cost (Adjusted to 2007 Dollars)
Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	9 deaths		\$36,686,654 loss of life
Respiratory Syncytial Virus Bronchiolitis	349 hospitalizations 0 deaths	\$8,512	\$2,970,591 hospitalization \$0 loss of life
Acute Otitis Media	18,261 office visits 84 hospitalizations	\$124 \$7,522	\$2,273,263 office visits \$631,876 hospitalizations
Asthma	5,321 episodes 351 hospitalizations 1 death	\$57 \$884	\$301,260 office visits \$3,130,365 hospitalizations \$1,967,208 loss of life
Acute Lower Respiratory, Bronchitis, Pneumonia	1,913 hospitalizations 0 deaths	\$21,904	\$41,903,062 hospitalizations \$0 loss of life
Burns	6 hospitalizations 1 death	\$44,054	\$264,321 hospitalizations \$2,826,965 loss of life
Low Birth Weight	554 LBW births	\$21,754	\$12,051,752 other
Extreme Low Birth Weight	58 Ex LBW	\$75,460	\$4,376,707
Spontaneous Abortion	49 spontaneous abortions	\$8,313	\$407,323 hospitalizations
		Total Health Care Costs =	\$68,310,521
		Total Loss of Life Costs =	\$41,480,827
		<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$109,791,348</b>

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The full study can be found at: [www.itpc.in.gov](http://www.itpc.in.gov) on the Evaluation and Research: Key Reports and Research Articles page.

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